

November 23, 1971

Wasatch County Board of Commissioners  
County Courthouse  
Heber City, Utah 84032

Gentlemen:

I have been advised by E. Ray Gardner of American Fork that he and other citizens who have relatives and friends buried in the old upper cemetery in the foothills northwest of Midway are attempting to have that old burial ground restored, not as a place for new burials, but as a memorial to the people who were buried there many years ago. Among these, of course, is one of the most prominent men in early Wasatch County history--Dr. John Gerber, grandfather of Mrs. Gardner, and also grandfather of former U.S. Senator Arthur V. Watkins. Among others who were buried there are two small children of my grandfather, James T. Wilson, and his second wife, Melissa Hancock Wilson.

A considerable number of people were buried in the old cemetery prior to 1900. I personally recall, as a boy, attending a funeral with my father. The person whose funeral was held was buried in the old cemetery.

It is my understanding that a memorial monument of some sort stands somewhere in Midway in memory of the people buried in the old cemetery. This information is contained in the life sketch of Dr. John Gerber at page 655 in "How Beautiful Upon The Mountains," D.U.P. history of Wasatch County. I don't understand why the plaque was not placed in the old cemetery.

It appears regrettable to me that this old burial place has been permitted to lapse into the realm of things

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forgotten. I trust that something can be done to bring back to the memory of the people now living thoughts of the worthy dead who are resting in this old burial ground.

Very sincerely yours,

*Judge*  
David J. Wilson  
*1983 Ent 364-9982*  
*Born 87*

cc: E. Ray Gardner  
American Fork, Utah



20 Apr 1972

## Old Cemetery at Mound City Is of Interest

The Daughters of the Utah Pioneers many years ago felt that something should be done as a remembrance of the pioneers who settled Midway and were buried in the old Mound City Cemetery.

In 1957 the Hawthorn Camp of the DUP had a monument erected in their honor by the roadside near the cemetery. Each Easter time beautiful wild daffodils grace the hillside to say "well done thy good and faithful servants buried here."

Buried there are Robert and Margaret Wright, Dr. John Gerber, Sarah Gerber, Julie Gerber Jacobs and baby, John Gerd Mohlman and infant son, John Mohlman Jr., John the son of John and Clara Van Wagoner Sr., infant son of Mr. and Mrs. John Huber Sr., baby of Moroni and Melissa Blood, Rosewell Blood Sr., Mary Jane Marsh, baby of James and Melissa Wilson, Anna and Elizabeth, twin daughters of Conrad and Elizabeth Abegglen, child of Ellen D. Thorton, three infant children of Mr. and Mrs. Ulrich Abegglen and Lon Swazy.

The little cemetery is located on top of a knoll on the left hand side as you drive beyond Jerry Gertsch's home toward Lime Canyon. Some of the headstone still remain. It is a nice walk from the roadway for reminiscing.

The Midway City Council and the County Commissioners are working on plans to restore and preserve the cemetery for future generations.

Those who are buried here are those who died at the upper settlement called Mound City from 1859 when they came until about 1871. Dr. John Gerber's headstone carries his death date as 1870.

20 Apr 1972

Spanish Fork, Utah  
June 3, 1972

Mr. E. L. Gerber  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Mr. Gerber:

In reply to your inquiry concerning the location of my grandfather John Gerd Mohlman's grave, I submit the following description as near as I can remember.

My father, Ephraim M. Mohlman, visited his fathers grave rather regularly and in his younger days while still living in Midway, Utah to about the age of 35, he visited the grave frequently. He stated that the grave during those years was marked with a wooden marker.

Ten years before my father died in 1953, he asked me to go to the grave so he could show me where it was located. It was located approximately 100 yards east of the Gerber marked graves which are to the west of my grandfather's grave. The north point of a strip of oak brush is very near the grave site.

On Memorial Day, May 29, 1972, I visited the site with my brother Farrell and my niece Glenna Huff. We outlined the grave with loose stones.

There is also strong indications of other grave sites immediately to the east and north of this grave.

Sincerely,

*Orson D. Mohlman*

Orson D. Mohlman  
655 East 100 South  
Spanish Fork, Utah